In the claims:

1-13. **(Cancelled)**

14. **(Currently Amended)** A substantially pure nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which encodes a CAK1 polypeptide at least 75% identical to ~~an amino acid sequence represented in~~ SEQ ID NO: ~~No.~~ 14, which CAK1 polypeptide binds a cyclin-dependent kinase and has a serine/threonine kinase activity.

15-16. **(Cancelled)**

17. **(Previously Presented)** The nucleic acid of claim 14, wherein the kinase activity of the CAK1 polypeptide activates a *Candida* cyclin dependent kinase.

18. **(Currently Amended)** The nucleic acid of claim 14, wherein ~~the phosphatase activity of~~ the CAK1 polypeptide phosphorylates *Candida* cyclin dependent kinases (cdks).

19. **(Previously Presented)** The nucleic acid of claim 14, which nucleic acid further comprises a transcriptional regulatory sequence operably linked to said nucleotide sequence so as to render said nucleotide sequence suitable for use as an expression vector.

20. **(Previously Presented)** An expression vector, capable of replicating in at least one of a prokaryotic cell and eukaryotic cell, comprising the nucleic acid of claim 14.

21. **(Previously Presented)** A host cell transfected with the expression vector of claim 20.

22. **(Previously Presented)** A method of producing a recombinant *Candida* CAK1 protein comprising culturing the cell of claim 21 in a cell culture medium to express said CAK1 protein and isolating said CAK1 protein from said cell culture.

23-36. **(Cancelled)**

37. **(Currently Amended)** A substantially pure nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes under stringent conditions of 6.0 x SSC at 45 °C followed by a wash step of 2.0 x SSC at 50 °C to the nucleic acid of SEQ ID NO: ~~No.~~ 13, and encodes a polypeptide that binds a cyclin-dependent kinase and has a serine/threonine kinase activity.

38. **(Currently Amended)** The nucleic acid of claim 37, which nucleic acid encodes a *CAK1* polypeptide at least 75% identical to ~~an amino acid sequence represented in~~ SEQ ID NO: ~~No.~~ 14.

39-40. **(Cancelled)**

41. **(Currently Amended)** The nucleic acid of claim 14, wherein the CAK1 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence identical to SEQ ID NO: ~~No.~~ 14.

42. **(Currently Amended)** The nucleic acid of claim 14, wherein the CAK1 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence at least 90% identical to SEQ ID NO: ~~No.~~ 14.

43. **(Currently Amended)** The nucleic acid of claim 14, wherein the CAK1 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical to SEQ ID NO: ~~No.~~ 14.

44. **(Currently Amended)** The nucleic acid of claim 14, wherein the CAK1 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence at least 98% identical to SEQ ID NO: ~~No.~~ 14.

45. **(Currently Amended)** The nucleic acid of claim 37, wherein the nucleic acid comprises a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: ~~No.~~ 13.

46. **(Previously Presented)** The nucleic acid of claim 37, wherein the kinase activity of the polypeptide activates a *Candida* cyclin-dependent kinase.

47. **(Currently Amended)** The nucleic acid of claim 37, wherein the ~~phosphatase activity of the~~ polypeptide phosphorylates a *Candida* cyclin-dependent kinase (cdk).